

1926

Letter from Mary to Family- Sunday Evening, circa 1926

Mary Behner

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Sunday morning 25?
19:00. *John*

Dear Family,

Mary and I are laying out on the lawn on 2 comforts and various pillows. Its a beautiful clear sunny summer morning. Really hot, too, but comfortable. Mary is trying to go asleep and I'm writing to you. Just now there is the nicest breeze stirring.

Yesterday was the most wonderful day. I felt at the end of the day such a healthy feeling - not only in body but in mind and spirit. Got up at 5:30 for a 5 mile hike - went over to breakfast - and after breakfast picked a bunch of violets and sent them off to a busy little friend of mine - Peg Craig - who is in the nurses home - taking training at Johns Hopkins hospital. She will

probably get them this morning
 some time - and how happy
 she will be. Received the dearest
 letter from her the other day
 - a long one -

It is later in the day now -
 and we have been resting on the
 lawn till now. Slept part of
 the time. This morning we
 had co-ed S.S. class out on the
 lawn in back of Scovel Hall.
 Our student discussion was
 on "Character vs. Reputation".

Good discussion.

Well I'll finish up all
 I did yesterday night. After
 picking violets for Peg - I rode
 on bicycle all over town -
 The little Williamstown girl got a
 new one for her birthday - and
 I rode her around town. Went
 to English class at 10:30 and
 then played base ball till
 noon. Right after lunch I
 cleaned the room and
 then about 3:30 went over
 to the gym and took a shower

3/ and washed my hair. After
supper Selma and Mary
went away for the evening
and Thelma Church (a jr)
and I sat out on the lawn
and talked till 9:00

I've made the most wonderful
new friend. She is older
than most of the girls here
and this has been coming
on rather slowly for
about a month. I know
you and mother would like
her. She taught a year
after her first college year
here and after her second
college year she was the
sec. at Berea College
and after this year she
is going to come right back
and finish - so she is
in my class and is
living in a suite right
across the corner
from me next year.
I know we are going to
have some wonderful
times.

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I must tell you what
your daughter is scheduled
to do next fall. Have been
elected to National Council
of the S. V. movement - as the
only representative from the
Northern Ohio groups - The
Northern Ohio Union pay
my full expenses which
will probably include a
trip to New York - from
Sept 3 - 8th - right before
school begins. It will
be a group of perhaps 60 or
70 people including a
representative from each
Union, 6 representatives
from the Foreign Mission
Boards, at least one of
whom is a Canadian -
eight representatives at
large, two of whom will
be foreign students studying
in U. S. or Canada.

four Canadians, four
 representatives of the Council
 of Christian Assoc. Movement
 and all the members of
 the travelling and head-
 quarters staff. This is
 some rare opportunity
 besides a big responsibility.
 It will mean much to get
 in touch personally
 with Headquarters.
 and Think of me seeing
 New York

Andy wants me to come up
 to Northfield and stay
 with them in their summer
 home after my stay at Milwaukee
 and then come down to
 New York, a little before
 my conference - and
 see New York - then after
 the council - we'll come
 back to school together.
 and then to "Chip" and
 then to studying

Sounds like one

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real treat of a summer
- but I want it to be a
big one - for next year.
Next year is going to be
a wealthy one in experience
and its going to mean
more real experience as a
pre-requisite - and real
devotional life. I can't
do the work of council
without it. State council
means trips over the state
- studying the groups
thru out. - reporting to
headquarters. talking to
groups, starting new ones
etc. - so I can't do
that without strength
from above. - and
you know it. Its going
to be a big year - folks.
- and with a big summer,
I'll be all bubbling over.

If there isn't more money
to come in from the groups
- for my council expenses -
- I shall have to forward it
personally, and that's
tough - I don't see
how I'm going to get
thru next year on
expenses. - now this
year for that matter.
And I don't want money
to keep back all these
wonderful opportunities
that are to be mine -
unusual ones and also
very unexpected ones.

Another addition has been
made to my wonderful week end.
After C. E. one of my new-made
senior friends - Mary Core -
asked me to take a walk
with her - We took a few
sandwiches that Mrs. Parker

gave us - (from a luncheon she'd had) and a book "By an Unknown Disciple" - two fellows plus ourselves and walked out to the country club and read two chapters of it. It was lovely.

It's really hot here - wore my green voile dress to church - my white hat - and no coat.

It's going to be so hard to be studious these wonderful days. Am taking a 5 mile hike every morning this week. My room-mate thinks I'm ambitious. Perhaps I am.

The time is flying.

Love

Mary E

1135 Beale Ave.
C. O. S. T. E. R.